

The Lord's Day, January 28, 2018

"...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ..."



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thank you for joining us this morning! At Christ the King, our worship is a divine-human dialogue, in accordance with Scriptural example and precedent, alternatively hearing God's Word and responding in prayer, song, or meditation. The gray boxes throughout the bulletin were written to aid each worshipper in thoughtful and meaningful participation in this dialogue. Please prepare your heart by reading through the bulletin, praying for those leading and worshipping around you, and silencing all communication devices.

We encourage parents to involve children as soon as possible in the worship service. In consideration of other worshippers, we request parents with children not yet ready for unobtrusive participation in worship to utilize the nursery or, if necessary, the cry room. A nursery is available for children ages 3 months to 3 years during all Sunday morning activities.

* Indicates congregational standing

Prelude

Call to Worship

God's sovereignty over the nations and their gods, along with the proclamation and recognition of His glory among them, are emphasized in the call to worship of this psalm.

Psalm 96:1-10 ESV Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ² Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴ For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. 6 Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. 7 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! 9 Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! 10 Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise Christ today because of His sovereignty over the nations, which makes inevitable the triumph of His kingdom.

"Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns" (Trinity Hymnal #369)

We AcknoWLedge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

The list of practices forbidden in this passage all have one thing in common: they all involve an attempt to gain control and knowledge that enable autonomy and independence from God rather than trust in and reliance upon Him. The spirit of the passage rules out not only these specific activities, but also attitudes and actions which amount to the same thing.

Deuteronomy 18:9-14 ESV

⁹ "When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. ¹⁰ There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer ¹¹ or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, ¹² for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord. And because of these abominations the Lord your God is driving them out before you. ¹³ You shall be blameless before the Lord your God, ¹⁴ for these nations, which you are about to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do this. Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This confession emphasizes our obligation to defer to God in the control and perception of the meaning of our lives, looking to and depending upon Him constantly.

Corporate Confession: O Most Merciful Father, Who gives life to everything that breathes and Whose eyes are too pure to gaze upon iniquity, we lay before You our sin and uncleanness in utter shame and humiliation. In direct defiance of our continuing debt to live unto You, acknowledge You, serve You and obey You, we have turned into ourselves and to our own way, pursuing our own ends as if we could create our own meaning, so rendering ourselves liable to Your just wrath and the penalty of death.We despise our ways, but confess that we are utterly powerless to change them or to please You truly to any degree. But we remember that You have declared Yourself to be the gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. We thus cast ourselves upon Your mercy, believing Your precious promise that those who come to You, You will in no wise cast out. We know and trust that, for the sake of Your dear Son, our Savior, You will not only forgive both our sins and our sin, but also grant us power like unto that by which You raised Him from the dead to walk in newness of life, not for the sake of any merit which we obtain thereby, but solely for the glory of the Name which is above every name, in which we offer this our prayer. Amen.

We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveness

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Those who do not seek to take their lives and their salvation into their own hands and do not trust in their own efforts have confidence, on the basis of God's own promise, that they are righteous in God's sight. Romans 4:3-5 ESV

³ For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

* Hymn of Assurance

We celebrate the adequacy of God's work in the gospel as contrasted with the feebleness of our own works, expressing once again our faith in Christ alone as our proper relationship to God.

"Not What My Hands Have Done"

- Not what my hands have done Can save my guilty soul; Not what my toiling flesh has borne Can make my spirit whole. Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God; Not all my prayers, and sighs and tears Can bear my awful load.
- Thy work alone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin Thy blood alone O Lamb of God, Can give me peace within. Thy love to me O God, Not mine, O Lord, to Thee Can rid me of this dark unrest, And set my spirit free!
- Thy grace alone, O God, To me can pardon speak; Thy power alone O Son of God, Can this sore bondage break. No other work, save Thine, No other blood will do, No strength save that, which is divine, Can bear me safely through.

- I bless the Christ of God;
 I rest on love divine;
 And with unfaltering lip and heart,
 I call this Savior mine.
 His cross dispels each doubt,
 I bury in His tomb
 My unbelief, and all my fear,
 Each lingering shade of gloom.
- 5. I praise the God of grace, I trust His truth and might He calls me His, I call Him mine, My God, my joy, my light 'Tis He Who saveth me, And freely pardon gives I love because He loveth me, I live because He lives! Words: Horatius Bonar. Music: Mike Biggs CCL #2223976.

(Alternate Tune: Trinity Hymnal #461)

We prAy for eAch Other

Prayers of Intercession

(The minister will lead us in prayer, taking requests from individuals.)

Sermon

"Essentials of Kingdom Expansion" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 13:1-12 ESV

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. 4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. 5 When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. 6 When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. 7 He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. 9 But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him 10 and said, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? 11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time." Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

Leader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God! **Communion Meditation**

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. (*or universal)

Distribution of Elements

Because we believe that wine was used in the Last Supper and is thus more in accord with the fullness of symbolism intended by God in the Lord's Supper, we offer wine and encourage those who take part in Communion to take this. For those with conscientious convictions against the use of wine, however, we offer the option of grape juice, which is contained in the inner circle of the communion trays. The cups containing wine are in the outer circles of the trays.

Offering Meditation

The pursuit of God's agenda, His kingdom, rather than our own, expressed in part in our worshipful giving, is the means rather than an obstacle to having our needs met.

Matthew 6:33 ESV

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Presentation of Offerings

"All Authority and Power" (Trinity Hymnal #453)

* Doxology (Trinity Hymnal #731)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

We respond to the Word

Having seen the need and benefits of committing our ways to the Lord and trusting His leading, we pray for such as we leave to enter the battle in the world once again.

* "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (Trinity Hymnal #598)

Benediction

VISION

Purpose (our reason for existence): to reverse the effects of rebellion against God (sin)

Mission (what we are called to do): to build the Kingdom of God, by...

- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

Core Values (our fundamental commitments):

- *I. Knowing* truth from God (Scripture)
- 2. Being right with God (Justification)
- 3. Living life for God (Sanctification)

Goals (what we seek to accomplish):

- 1. Worship—People experiencing and being attracted to and trained in the enjoyment of God
- 2. *Fellowship*—People displaying and enjoying genuinely loving and giving relationships/Christian community
- 3. *Christian Education*—People being confronted with and oriented to the whole truth of God
- 4. *Outreach*—People being drawn to the Church and trained to draw others
- 5. *Mercy*—People caring about and meeting the material needs of both non-Christians and other Christians

How can you be a part of all this?

SERMON NOTES

January 28, 2018

"Essentials of Kingdom Expansion" (Rev. $M_{ike} B_{iggs}$)

Acts 13:1-12

Introduction:

What does effective kingdom expansion require?

I. Kingdom expansion requires a *healthy church foundation*. A. Scripturally grounded.

B. Constitutionally diverse.

C. Spiritually vital.

D. Divinely deferential.

II. Kingdom expansion requires the work of the Holy Spirit. A. Guidance.

B. Power.

III. Kingdom expansion requires a theologically informed methodology. A. Covenantal orientation.

B. Opportunistic awareness.

C. Empowered boldness.

For Your Personal Devotions _____

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: